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24 December 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Comments on State Proposal on IAC Subcommittee
on Psychological Warfare and DD/P Comments
Thereon

BACKGROUND

1. It should be noted that the State Department proposal for an interdepartmental Committee on Psychological Intelligence and Research was largely undertaken at the instigation of the DD/I. OIC felt at the time that this was the right thing to do, not because it was believed to be a panacea but because (a) at a minimum it would provide an effective medium for registering, promptly, and with the right parties, criticism of alleged psychological intelligence deficiencies; (b) it might provide a new stimulus to relate psychological research needs to the existing or proposed contracts of the military for external research; and (c) it might help psychological warfare operators to re-examine their intelligence requirements.

COMMENTS

2. In recent months there have been the following pertinent developments:

a. As DD/P points out General Smith has written to Deputy Secretary of Defense Foster in connection with CIA support of the external research staff in the State Department (copy attached).

b. The RDB is (at Mr. Becker's suggestion) establishing a committee to coordinate the external research of the Defense Department.

c. Within the State Department, there has been a reorganization which places one man (Evron Kirkpatrick) over both the Psychological Staff and the External Research Staff. This should more closely relate political, social, and cultural external research to needs for psychological intelligence. Because of the demonstrated ability of Kirkpatrick to coordinate in the External Research field with a very limited staff, it is my prediction that he will be able to do a very good job in helping the operators limit their intelligence needs to the practicable and in getting them informed as to what has been produced. These are very important considerations in getting real improvement in this field.

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d. The State Department has Bureau of the Budget approval for 61 positions for psychological intelligence research. It is my understanding that the Bureau of the Budget inquired of General Smith his attitude on the R Area budget and that he, in general terms, endorsed it.

CONCLUSION

3. In view of the foregoing developments, it is my belief that the DD/I's objective, which was to get some positive action both in regard to coordination and strengthening the resources, are in part being achieved.

RECOMMENDATION

4. That DD/I inform State that in view of the foregoing developments, it would be, perhaps, wise to hold the State proposal for an IAC subcommittee in abeyance for four to six months, reviewing the situation at that time to see whether there will be further developments as beneficial as anticipated and whether something additional will be required.

JAMES Q. REBER
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Intelligence Coordination

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